



PO Box 1352
Ann Arbor MI
PH 734.994.5260
FX 734.994.0504
www.artfair.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JULY 11, 2007

Contact: Joyce Williams, Huron Valley Ambulance Public Affairs Manager,
(734) 477-6285, jwilliams@hva.org

Shary Brown, Executive Director AASAF, (734) 997-5260, sbrown@artfair.org

Staying Safe at the Ann Arbor Art Fairs

Local agencies work together to keep fairgoers comfortable and safe in 2007

ANN ARBOR, MI. The 2007 Ann Arbor Art Fairs are here! Although everyone thinks of the heat-related emergencies that occur at outdoor summer events, local agencies are also prepared for other medical emergencies, severe weather, crime and the additional safety needs of a population of 600,000 people over four days, whether event participants or residents of a small city.

For the seventh straight year, Huron Valley Ambulance will provide emergency medical coverage with their paramedic bike teams, who are prepared for heat problems, seizures, heart attacks and other emergencies. The paramedics carry life saving equipment, including oxygen, a defibrillator, and essential medications. These bikes also are equipped with sirens to warn people out of their way as they respond to an emergency. Two bike teams of two paramedics maneuver easily through crowds while additional paramedics staff HVA's Mobile Operations Center, a customized motor home that provides privacy for those needing first aid. The center will be located on North University just west of Fletcher.

Additional emergency medical care will be provided by volunteers from the Washtenaw County Chapter of the American Red Cross' First Aid Support Team (FAST). FAST members trained to administer basic first aid, CPR and automated external defibrillation will patrol the fairs on foot. The Red Cross will also provide a first aid station on Ashley Street at Liberty. The station includes a private treatment area with cots and basic life support equipment. FAST members will communicate directly with HVA via radio to facilitate a quick response to any serious medical emergencies.

In the event of severe weather or other serious threats, the Ann Arbor Office of Emergency Management will monitor the situation and notify fair officials and emergency personnel, who then

will notify the affected artists, vendors and participants. Other emergencies such as fires, crimes and accidents will be handled by the Ann Arbor Fire and Police Departments and the University of Michigan Department of Public Safety.

The Ann Arbor Police Department also will have their mobile command post on North Church St. The Ann Arbor Fire Department will staff a booth at State and Washington next to the children's tent in the State Street Area Art Fair. Everyone is invited to stop by for a big firefighting surprise!

Local public safety agencies that will provide services during the four days of the art fairs include:

American Red Cross – Washtenaw Chapter
Ann Arbor Office of Emergency Management
Ann Arbor Fire Department
Ann Arbor Police Department
Huron Valley Ambulance
University of Michigan Dept. of Public Safety
Washtenaw County Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Local emergency agencies also have a few tips for a safe and comfortable Art Fairs experience:

- Drink plenty of water.
- Eat light meals.
- Wear light colored, lightweight, loose clothing and comfortable shoes.
- Wear plenty of sunscreen, sunglasses and a hat.
- Bring a light raincoat; leave umbrellas at home (to avoid accidentally hurting others in the crowds).
- If you bring small children in a stroller, please be considerate of other fairgoers' toes and heels.
- Crowding is unavoidable so allow extra time for "people gridlock".
- Be considerate of people in wheelchairs or with disabilities.
- Bring only service animals. Pets may not enjoy the fair as we do and may burn their paws on the pavement.
- Keep yourself from overheating and getting overly tired — AATA shuttles are available to take fairgoers back and forth to offsite free parking lots at Briarwood Mall and Pioneer High School. The University of Michigan M-Art Line provides transportation to their Glazier Way and Huron Parkway lot on the north side of the Fairs. Also, the AATA Link bus will be available to take you around the fairs.

- If you have an emergency, call 911 from your cell phone and know the closest street address or booth number. This year, to help fairgoers know where they are, easily identifiable booth numbers will be posted front and back.
- If you experience heat-related symptoms (heavy sweating, clammy skin, nausea or vomiting), call 911.

If you loose a child, adult with special needs, or valuables, here are some important steps to follow:

CHILD (and adults with special needs):

- Parent/guardian of a lost child should notify volunteers at the nearest INFO Booth or Police Officer and provide: cell phone number, child's height, weight, gender, age, ethnicity, clothing description & any noticeable / specific traits.
- Police and Fairs' Staff will remain in radio contact throughout the search.
- Parent/guardian should return to where child was last seen or stay at the INFO Booth, unless instructed otherwise.
- Found children will be brought to the designated INFO Booth and parent/guardian will be notified.

VALUABLES:

- Provide description of lost/stolen item and your contact information at the nearest INFO Booth.
- Missing/stolen items will be reported to Police and Fairs' Staff
- Found items will be brought to the designated INFO Booth and owner will be notified, if possible.

#